

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-20

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /022 R

DRAFTED BY S/S-O CMNAGAO

APPROVED BY S/S-O: RELTZ

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O P 040228Z DEC 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

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TODEP 13

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP (RUSH, KENNETH)

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 3 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AN ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE  
US IS EXPECTED TO PRESS ISRAELIS FOR CONCESSIONS UNQUOTE  
BY LESLIE H. GELB WHICH APPEARED IN DECEMBER 3 ISSUE OF  
NEW YORK TIMES: QUOTE A FIRM CONSENSUS APPEARS TO HAVE  
BEEN REACHED WITHIN THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION THAT THE  
UNITED STATES MUST PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO MAKE SIGNI-  
FICANT CONCESSIONS IN THE FORTHCOMING MIDDLE EAST PEACE  
TALKS IN GENEVA, ACCORDING TO SEVERAL HIGH AMERICAN OFFI-  
CIALS.

LAST WEEK AT A MEETING WITH 37 DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PRESIDENT NIXON STRESSED THAT  
ISRAEL HAD TO REALIZE THAT WASHINGTON WAS HER ONLY FRIEND  
AMONG THE MAJOR POWERS AND THAT RETENTION OF LANDS CAP-  
TURED FROM THE ARABS WAS NOT A FEASIBLE POLICY. REPORTS  
ON THE MEETING BY REPRESENTATIVE IKE F. ANDREWS, DEMOCRAT  
OF NORTH CAROLINA, WERE NOT DENIED BY THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS OFFICE.

IN AN INTERVIEW OVER THE WEEKEND, A SENIOR FOREIGN POLICY

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OFFICIAL SAID FLATLY, QUOTE WE ARE PREPARED TO LEAN ON

ISRAEL FOR A REASONABLE MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT UNQUOTE.

NEVERTHELESS, THIS OFFICIAL AND OTHERS ADD THAT MAJOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING AMERICAN POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST REMAIN UNANSWERED. WHAT IS A QUOTE REASONABLE UNQUOTE PEACE? HOW CAN THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION QUOTE LEAN ON UNQUOTE ISRAEL WITHOUT CALLING FORTH STRONG COUNTERPRES-SURES FROM AMERICAN SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL? WHAT HELP CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THE SOVIET UNION? IS THE ISRAELI GOVERN-MENT LIKELY TO GIVE IN TO AMERICAN PRESSURES?

STATE DEPARTMENT EXPERTS ARE SAID TO HAVE PREPARED PAPERS OUTLINING A PEACE PACKAGE. ALTHOUGH DETAILS OF THESE PAPERS WERE NOT DISCLOSED, THEY WERE DESCRIBED AS INCLUDING THE RETURN OF ALMOST ALL CAPTURED ARAB LANDS, THE CREATION OF DEMILITARIZED ZONES IN THE SINAI PENIN-SULA AND ON THE WEST BANK OF JORDAN RIVER AND A QUOTE COMPLICATED UNQUOTE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE STATUS OF JERU-SALEM, ALL UNDER NEGOTIATED INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES.

AN INFORMED FOREIGN DIPLOMAT SAID IN AN INTERVIEW THAT PREMIER GOLDA MEIR OF ISRAEL HAD BEEN ASSURED BY SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AND BY PRESIDENT NIXON THAT THERE WOULD BE NO SOVIET-AMERICAN PEACE PLAN AND NO SEPARATE AMERICAN PLAN. THE DIPLOMAT REPORTED THAT MR. KISSINGER HAD SAID THAT WASHINGTON HAD QUOTE NO FINAL CONCEPTIONS UNQUOTE OF A SETTLEMENT AND WOULD RATHER OFFER GOOD OFFICES WHERE THE ISRAELIS AND THE ARABS WERE DEADLOCKED.

THE SAME DIPLOMAT INSISTED THAT SO FAR WASHINGTON QUOTE HAD NOT TWISTED ISRAELI ARMS AT ALL UNQUOTE.

REGARDING MR. KISSINGER'S STATEMENTS TO MRS. MEIR THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMERICAN PEACE PLAN, THE DIPLOMAT SAID THAT THE SECRETARY HAD HAD TO IMPART DIFFERENT IMPRES-SIONS TO DIFFERENT AUDIENCES.

MR. KISSINGER, HE CONTINUED, NEEDS TO CONVINCE THE ARABS THAT WASHINGTON MUST TAKE ACCOUNT OF PRO-ISRAELI PRES-UNCLASSIFIED

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SURES WHILE CONVEYING THE IDEA THAT HE IS PUTTING PRES-SURE ON ISRAEL.

THE DIPLOMAT CITED AS AN EXAMPLE THE SIX-POINT CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT THAT MR. KISSINGER NEGOTIATED THREE WEEKS AGO. HE SAID THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PLAN HAD BEEN AGREED UPON BY PREMIER MEIR AND PRESIDENT NIXON A WEEK BEFORE THE KISSINGER VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST. THE SOURCE

EXPLAINED THAT ONCE MR.KISSINGER GOT TO EGYP, HE HAD TO  
MAKE IT APPEAR THAT ISRAEL'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PLAN WAS

IN DOUBT. AMERICAN OFFICIALS WOULD NEITHER CONFIRM NOR  
DENY THIS ACCOUNT.

THE SOURCE DESCRIBED PAST MEETINGS WITH MRS. MEIR BY MR.  
NIXON AND MR. KISSINGER AS DEVOID OF THREATS. HE DEPICTED  
A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE WHERE AT ONE POINT THE PRESIDENT  
SAID TO THE PREMIER QUOTE WE HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON--  
WE BOTH HAVE JEWISH FOREIGN SECRETARIES UNQUOTE. TO  
WHICH THE SOURCE SAID MRS. MEIR HAD RESPONDED QUOTE YES,  
BUT MINE SPEAKS WITHOUT AN ACCENT UNQUOTE.

THE SENIOR DIPLOMAT SAID THAT ISRAEL RECOGNIZED THAT THE  
CLIMATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS WOULD BE LESS FAVORABLE AS  
FACTORS FOR A CHANGE. HE NOTED ISRAEL'S GROWING DIPLO-  
MATIC ISOLATION, THE ARAB OIL EMBARGO, AND PARTICULARLY  
THE POLITICAL MOMENTUM OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-  
AMERICAN RELATIONS.

THIS DETENTE, ACCORDING TO AN INTELLIGENCE EXPERT, IS NOT  
EXPECTED TO LEAD TO SOVIET PRESSURES ON EGYPT AND SYRIA.  
THIS EXPERT BELIEVES THAT MOSCOW WILL HELP MAINTAIN THE  
FORMS OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE, BUT NOT IN URGING CONCES-  
SIONS BY ITS ARAB ALLIES.

MEANWHILE, NONE OF THE AMERICAN OFFICIALS INTERVIEWED  
WOULD PREDICT THE PROBABLE EFFECTIVENESS OF WASHINGTON'S  
PROJECTED PRESSURES ON ISRAEL.

THE INFORMED DIPLOMAT OBSERVED THAT ISRAEL WAS A DEMO-  
CRACY, SUBJECT TO THE VAGARIES OF ELECTORAL POLITICS.  
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HE SAID THAT CONCESSIONS THAT SEEMED REASONABLE IN AMERI-  
CA MIGHT NOT BE POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE IN ISRAEL.

QUOTE NIXON AND KISSINGER UNQUOTE THE DIPLOMAT SAID,  
QUOTE ARE USED TO DEALING WITH DICTATORS IN CHINA AND  
RUSSIA, WHO CAN MAKE DECISIONS ON THE SPOT UNQUOTE.  
QUICK DECISIONS, HE SUGGESTED, WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING  
FROM ISRAEL. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** collinp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05-Oct-2001 by williadtr>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by collinp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DECEMBER 3 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AN ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (RUSH, KENNETH)  
**To:** JERUSALEM  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005